

100-29

bcc: J. C. Yang  
R. J. Bettacchi  
J. Ottinger/CPD No. Brunswick

Construction Products Division

W.R. Grace & Co.  
62 Whittemore Avenue  
Cambridge, Mass. 02140

September 29, 1983 (617) 876-1400

Mr. G. J. Horvitz  
New York Testing Laboratories Inc.  
Call Box 1021  
75 Urban Avenue  
Westbury, L. I., NY 11590

Dear Mr. Horvitz:

We are in receipt of a copy of your asbestos content analysis dated June 21, 1983, Laboratory No. 83-69177. This was done for Fortunoff per their order #30167.

We have been advised that the sample was our product Zonolite Monokote (Type MK-5) fireproofing. Our own subsequent analysis has confirmed that the material was Type MK-5. Monokote is a cementitious fireproofing product manufactured by the Construction Products Division of W. R. Grace & Co. It is a dry, factory-mixed blend of vermiculite, gypsum, organic and inorganic (non-asbestos) fibers and small quantity of an air entraining agent. The material is mixed with water at the job site for application. The product is formulated without the addition of commercial asbestos.

Your analysis indicates the presence of chrysotile asbestos at a level of 5% by volume. We believe that your analysis has mistaken as asbestos the chopped glass fibers which are part of the product formulation. The EPA banned asbestos containing products in 1973 so that no commercially available product would contain asbestos fibers.

We would suggest that you review your original data or conduct a follow-up analysis on the retained sample. I am sure that this follow-up will indicate that the product does not contain asbestos.

This mistake, if left unchecked, has serious implications on future sales of Monokote. I would ask that you contact Fortunoff with the results of your subsequent analysis and send us a copy of this follow-up laboratory report.

Please contact me if you have any questions on the above.

Regards,

*Robert A. Merther*  
**Robert A. Merther**  
Manager

Fire Protection Products

RAM:mg

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cc: O. M. Favorito, Esquire

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